

Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 180945Z FEB 76 ZFF-5

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6695

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BANGUI 0301

EXDIS

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR QUANTON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CT

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR QUANTON

REF: A. STATE 037490 B. PARIS 04798

1. PROTOCOL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT PRESIDENT BOKASSA PREPARED RECEIVE AMBASSADOR QUANTON AT 1630 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20 FOR THE PRESENTATION OF HIS CREDENTIALS.

2. IN RESPONSE EMBASSY ASKED THAT PROTOCOL CONVEY ITS APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT FOR HIS WILLINGNESS TO ACCREDIT AMBASSADOR SO EXPEDITIOUSLY. EMBASSY ADDED HOWEVER THAT SINCE ITS NOTE CONCERNING AMBASSADOR'S ARRIVAL AND CHARGE'S CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN FRANCK LAST WEEK SOME DELAY HAD DEVELOPED IN AMBASSAWA DOR'S TRAVEL PLANS AND IT WAS NOT CERTAIN THAT AMBASSADOR WOULD BE ABLE ARRIVE IN TIME FOR FEBRUARY 20 APPOINTMENT. EXPRESSED HOPE THAT WE COULD CONFIRM SOONEST BUT DRAWING ON PARA 3 E STATE 037490 INDICATED THAT THIS PARTLY DEPENDENT ON CHARGE MEETING WITH BOKASSA BEFOREHAND.

3. USED OCCASION TO INQUIRE ABOUT STATUS OF REQUEST FOR URGENT APPOINTMENT FOR CHARGE' WITH PRESIDENT BOKASSA IN ACCORDANCE PARA 5 STATE 037490. PROTOCOL PROMISED LOOK INTO MATTER AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY, BUT AS YET HAVE HEARD NO FURTHER.

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4. IN ADDITION TO INSINUATION OF CIA ANGLE TO FEBRUARY 3 COUP ATTEMPT WHICH HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO STAND, EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED TWO MFA DIPLOMATIC NOTES WHICH MAY SUGGEST ADDITIONAL BILATERAL FALLOUT IN WAKE OF FEBRUARY 3 EVENTS. AS REPORTED BANGUI 0299 VISA REQUIREMENT FOR AMCITS HAS BEEN REIMPOSED. COMPANION NOTE RECEIVED FEBRUARY 1(INFORMED EMBASSY THAT "FOR OBVIOUS DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS, HIS EXCELLENCY JEAN-BEDEL BOKASSA WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE THE OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES FORESEEN FOR APRIL 24, 1976. THIS VISIT WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE." SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY STATES IT DID NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE SIMILAR NOTE AND THAT SEOUL VISIT CONSIDERED STILL ON.

5. IF MEETING WITH BOKASSA TAKES PLACE TODAY AS HOPED, WILL BROACH QUESTIONS OF VISA AND VISIT AS WELL TO DETERMINE IF THEY ARE RELATED AS WE BELIEVE THEY ARE TO APPARENT GOCAR BELIEF THAT USG SOMEHOW OR OTHER IMPLICATED IN COUP ATTEMPT.
SWING

SECRET

NNN

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